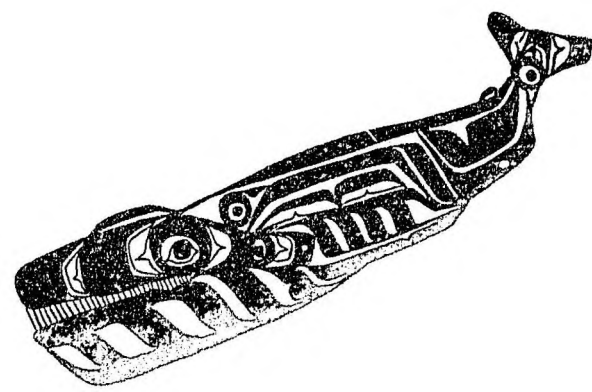


# Whalesong



Volume 18, Issue 7

University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau Campus

January 31, 1997

## Union organizes university faculty

### United Academics to press salary issues, working conditions

By Wayne Saucier  
Whalesong Reporter

The faculty at the University of Alaska Southeast has recently unionized in hope of renegotiating several labor issues involving salaries, working conditions, and other university policies.

United Academics is a union representing all full-time faculty members in the university system. The group serves to organize the employees and give them a means to voice their interests to the administration.

"The administration has not been listening to us for years," said Larry Weiss, president of the organization. "Now law will require them to do so." The initial steps to unionize were taken two years ago, including preliminary consultations with the national unions American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and the Association of American University Professors (AAUP). The organization didn't begin to assemble itself until this past summer, and by August, its executive committee had been elected and its constitution ratified. In December, union representatives met with university administration officials to establish negotiating ground rules and schedules.

The union's administrative affairs are handled by the executive board, which consists of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and an organizational vice president from each of the three major campuses. The board is in the process of orga-

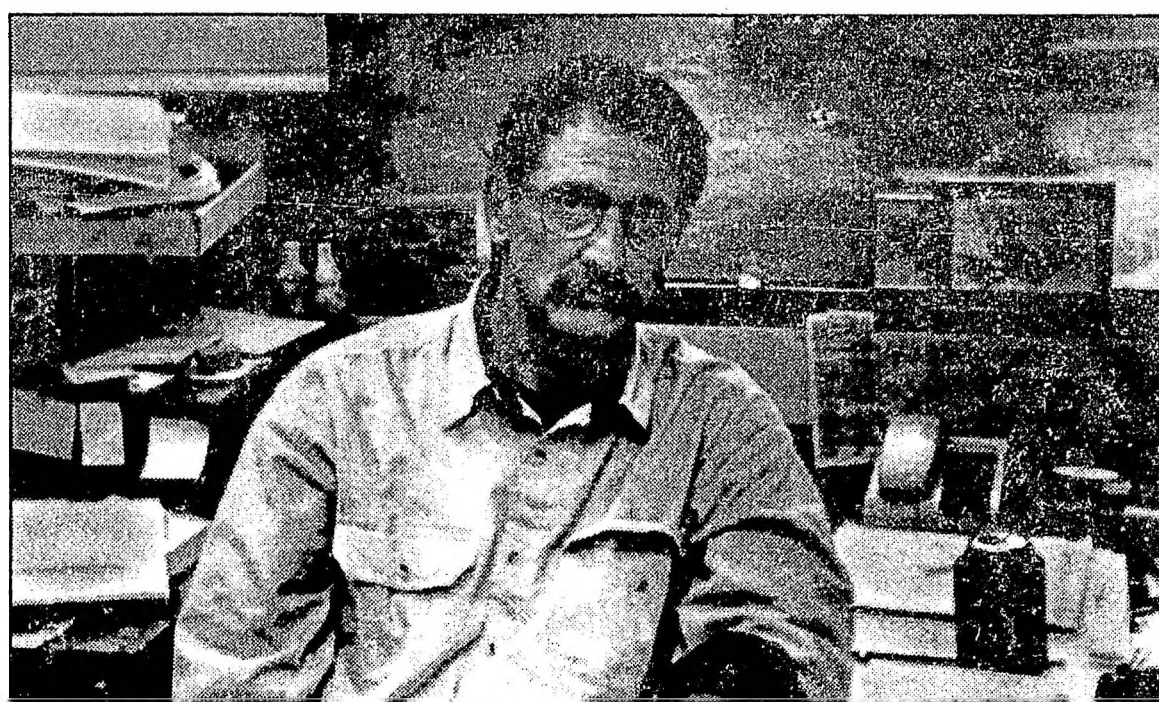


Photo by Wayne Saucier

UAS Chemistry Professor Mike Stekoll sits on the executive board of the newly formed faculty union United Academics. The union hopes to renegotiate such items as salaries, benefits and working conditions.

nizing elections for a representative assembly, which will include members from each of the three campuses, to set policy for and direct the union.

Through its affiliation with AFT and AAUP, the union is provided with the legal expertise, human resources, training, and organizational advice it needs to become a successful bargaining unit.

Participation in the union has been sur-

prisingly high, with almost 300 members having signed on. Membership is optional and dues are paid through regular payroll deductions. UAS chemistry professor Mike Stekoll, the union's organizational vice president for UAS, expects over half of the 800 full time faculty members who qualify to sign on with the union. Membership is important, he said, because power at the negotiating table lies in numbers. The union's

first major membership drive, scheduled to begin within a week or two, will include mass mailings, telephone banking, and department representative solicitations.

The major issues the union wishes to renegotiate include salary schedule, workloads, grievance policies, tenure policies, as well as numerous other smaller items. Talks between the union's negotiating team pool and the administration's negotiating team will start sometime in February or March. By that time, Stekoll said, the union hopes to have a tentative bargaining contract ready, having been drafted by various elected union sub-committees, to address problems the union has with current university policies.

The union will be met at the bargaining table by a team of five university negotiators, with a representative from each of the three major campuses, a human resources specialist, and chief spokesperson Jim Johnson, director of University Labor Relations.

The university is displaying a diplomatic attitude heading into the negotiations, and seeks to have a good working environment with them. "The university recognizes and respects the decision the faculty has made [in forming the union]," Johnson said. "We will negotiate with the faculty union in good faith."

## UAS completes administrative restructuring

### University hopes for increased efficiency and decreased costs

By Wayne Saucier  
Whalesong Reporter

The administrative restructuring process at UAS is now complete, and faculty and administration officials are hoping it will be a more efficient and less costly version of the former campus organization. The changes come as a response to a recent budget-cutting mandate from the president's office and will give the university a new look heading into the spring semester.

The deans of each of the schools of Career Education, Business and Public Administration, and Education, Liberal Arts and Sciences have been consolidated into a single position, the Dean of Faculty. John Pugh, formerly the Dean of the School of Education, Liberal Arts, and Sciences (ELAS) has taken this position. The faculty of the three schools have been reorganized into clusters according to field, each represented on the Faculty Council.

"The university is taking a positive attitude concerning the changes. 'I think it's a good go, and I hope that we can work together to implement it,' he said. There will be two Assistants to the Dean. Jean Linthwaite from ELAS and



Photo by Wayne Saucier

Robbie Stell, formerly the Dean of Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies, has recently been named Vice Chancellor. The change is one of several that are part of the recently finalized administrative restructuring process at UAS.

Laraine Derr, formerly with the School of Business. Linthwaite will handle on-campus affairs such as curriculum, budgeting, and support services, while Derr will over-

see off-campus activities such as satellite courses, correspondence courses, and education credential and endorsement programs. An Associate Dean position has

been added to direct Career Education and assist Dean Pugh as needed.

The restructuring involved the Chancellor's office, as well. Roberta Stell, formerly the Dean of Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies, has become the Vice Chancellor. Stell said her duties have shifted from internal academic affairs to external issues such as inter-campus credit transfers and the re-accreditation process

continued on page 3

### About our new whale...

Whalesong readers may notice a change in our logo. It was recently pointed out to us by Sorrel Goodwin, an authority on Northwest material culture, that our previous "whale" was actually a salmon. Created by Goodwin, our new logo accurately reflects a humpback whale (the UAS mascot), executed in Northwest Coast Formline design style.

The Whalesong would like to thank Goodwin for his contribution, and we apologize for our past inaccuracy.

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Jan 1997



## Editor's Corner

A nice place to live...



Annette Nelson-Wright  
Whalesong Editor

It wasn't often that I was consciously thankful I was an American. Usually I was only cognizant of the fact when I was made aware of some injustice or atrocity in some other country. Like having brown hair, being an American was just the way things shook out when I was born and I never gave it much thought.

Imagine for a moment you're on your way out the road to go camping. You're enjoying watching the sun reflect on Lynn Canal and off the snow in the trees. As you round the corner you see signs alerting you to a roadblock. As you approach, you notice off to one side a barricade about 10 feet high constructed out of sandbags partially concealing a large truck. The large truck, a flatbed with makeshift rails attached, is itself partially concealing 12 or so soldiers in the back, all dressed in military fatigues and holding M-16's. You slow down and prepare to stop. Then you notice there are spikes drawn across the road, and should you fail to stop your tires would be destroyed. Additionally there are six or so soldiers standing in the road also holding M-16's, with hand grenades hanging off their belts and a large grenade launcher off to the side. As you approach they motion for you to roll down the window. As the soldier leans in to ask you questions, he gingerly moves his M-16 to the side so as not to hit the side of your car with it and he is careful not to brush against the door with the hand grenades on his belt. He would like to know where you're going and why. He'd also like for you to open the trunk and they'd like to look in your bags. They

also want to know who's in the car: Are you friends? Are you related? Apparently you pass inspection because after a brief search you are allowed to pass.

Now you've arrived at where you want to camp and, let's for the sake of the story say it's at a maintained campground. You're putting your tent up and getting settled when you notice what looks like the groundskeeper and you amble over and strike up a conversation. He's wearing what looks like a uniform issued by his employer, and you notice his worn shoes and his weathered straw hat. He begins telling you about the area and the campground. "Yes," he says, "it is beautiful here." As he talks you notice he has teeth that haven't been tended to by a dentist, in fact some are missing. Yet his smile is still radiant and his manner easy and welcoming, he is just as eager to tell you about the area as you are to learn about it. You ask how long he's been here and working for the campground. He tells you he's lived here for about seven years, he lives about an hour away and he walks to from work every day. He can't afford a car, a ten-year-old Honda costs about 25K, and even if he could, gas is \$6 a gallon so he couldn't afford to drive. But, he tells you, he has been at his job for five years because it's a very good one. He was lucky to speak a second language he says, so he could get a job as a groundskeeper. He is a fortunate man, he tells you because his job pays well compared to most, he makes \$1.60 an hour, most of his contemporaries make 60 cents

continued on page 3

## OPINION--Citadel's 'tradition' perpetuates sociopathic behavior

By Jim Spencer  
Daily Press  
Newport News, Va.  
Knight-Ridder/Tribune News

It's too soon to pronounce co-education at The Citadel a failure, but it is time to ask who's in charge at the formerly all-male, state-supported military college. Officials at the South Carolina school this week were forced to address the fact that two of four first-year female cadets refused to return for spring semester because classmates hazed them during the fall. The officials reaffirmed their commitment to make women welcome.

They need to control sociopathic behavior that some folks say has been occurring right under their noses.

On two separate occasions the two young women who withdrew had their clothes set on fire. These attacks apparently were not gender-based. Rather, burning clothes is hazing that sometimes occurs to cadets, male or female.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported that setting people's clothes on fire is "described by Citadel graduates as a tradition in Echo Company dating back at least a decade." That assessment was based on interviews with recent alumni who said they had heard of clothes-burning incidents while in school.

"I don't believe the Atlanta Journal-Constitution," said Citadel spokesman Terry Leedom. "There is no such tradition."

Whoever you believe, no one disputes that during the fall semester upperclassmen splashed Cutex nail polish remover on the clothes of some first-year cadets, including two women, and set it afire.

This is a pathetic testimonial to the discipline The Citadel purports to instill in its students. The school may no longer be sex-

ist, but it continues to host equal opportunity arsonists.

The lawyer for Jeanie Mentavlos, one of two women who left, said that in one incident a Citadel upperclassman set fire to the clothes of his client, another woman and two male cadets.

The attorney told a reporter that for weeks Mentavlos wore a Citadel sweatshirt in which her classmates had burned a hole. He said Mentavlos was instructed by cadet superiors to tell anyone who asked that she had been smoking in a bed, a violation of school rules.

Leedom called the latter charge "nothing but fabrication."

I call all of this positively medieval.

When I think of burning clothes, I think of the Inquisition and the selection of supposed heretics for sadistic tests of religious faith that, in the end, had more to do with the depravity of the pious than the agnosticism of the victims.

I also think of Citadel-attendeé Pat Conroy's 1980 novel "The Lords of Discipline." The book describes a cadet's attempt to protect the first black cadet at the fictitious "Carolina Military Institute" from hazing. The made-up school's students act an awful lot like their current real-life Citadel counterparts. People survive this kind of abuse, but it doesn't make them stronger.

I can understand why Hampton Walker, president of The Citadel's alumni association, would blame administrators for not preventing the hazing that drove out the two female cadets.

Solve problems, Walker told a Charleston, S.C., newspaper. "Don't give me tradition and heritage."

Especially traditions that seem like tac-

continued on page 3

## Letters to the Editor

The Whalesong encourages readers to voice their opinion. Send comments via e-mail to JYWHALE or drop off at the Whalesong office located downstairs in the Mourant building.

### Some smokers just don't get it

I just read a letter to the editor in the last Whalesong, and could not let the short-sighted writer go unchallenged. Among other things, this smoker claimed that he was discriminated against as a smoker. This suggestion is very galling to anyone who knows the true nature of discrimination. If he doesn't want to be judged by his smoking, then he could simply quit. Of course, he could claim that he is addicted and therefore his smoking is a physical disability, but I suspect this smoker would be the first to claim that he could give it up any time.

Knowing the health risks involved, I can't imagine anyone being so rude as to light a cigarette in a closed space—like an automobile—when a non-smoker is present. This is crass in the extreme, regardless of who owns the automobile. Yet our smoker admits to having done this very thing. Then he flippantly goes on to describe the complaints of the non-smoker in regards to his disrespectful act. Seems to me this writer wants it both ways. He wants respect and sensitivity to his desire for nicotine, but does not want to respect or show any sensitivity toward anyone else's desire for unpolluted air.

This smoker goes on whining about how he can't go anywhere without at least one person glaring at him as if he "were the anti-Christ." He shouldn't think of himself so highly. He is probably glared at as if he were a self-centered smoker with no respect for the rights of others. Second-hand smoke has been clearly shown to adversely affect the health of non-smokers. In effect our smoker might as well be asking to be allowed to fire a weapon at random—and for everyone to ignore it, even when it occasionally wounds children and other innocent citizens.

Perhaps the writer's most flagrant distortion of the truth is contained in his "wish that people would just leave smokers alone." He even repeats what is essentially a lie, wishing that "goody-goody non-smokers would just mind their own business." How about if smokers would just leave people alone? My non-smoking is not polluting his air; therefore I think I am leaving him alone. This contrasts strongly with the fact

that he is not leaving non-smokers alone when he knowingly pollutes their air supply. Furthermore, non-smokers are trying to mind their own business! Their own business just happens to include minding their personal health. My health is my business, and when smokers infringe on my health they have in effect made their smoking my business.

As I neared the letter's end, I saw that our self-righteous smoker was apparently upset because some self-righteous non-smoker had suggested that smokers not pollute the air within 150 feet of buildings. To illustrate the situation let us assume for a moment that I like to wear a water-sprinkler on my head. Let us also assume that I and several other persons with water-sprinkler additions regularly gathered on break to enjoy our water-sprinklers. We would of course not be allowed to turn on our sprinklers indoors! So where do we congregate? Just outside the building, of course! Now how do you suppose our smoker and most other people would react? With anger, no doubt. Who would want to get wet every time they entered a building? It is absolutely no different with cigarette smoke. It gets on my clothing and I have to smell it until it "evaporates."

Like the writer's mother, my mother also used to say "if you don't have something nice to say don't say anything." In fact, she still says that. However, she also taught me not to mis-apply that and similar bits of wisdom. Our smoker apparently does not understand the tremendous difference between saying things that aren't nice and standing up for one's rights. There are probably some mean-spirited non-smokers out there that pick on smokers to gain some twisted satisfaction; however, I believe most non-smokers are simply interested in preserving their right to clean air.

The writer has a catchy ending, suggesting that smokers should be hugged because they are people too. I would ask him why I should want to hug a person who has no respect for my health. Why? Why indeed?

--Talmadge Bailey

### Dutch, Danish, and proud

Dear fellow students:

I thought about writing a letter to the editor but felt compelled to write to you instead. It's not often that an issue raises my eyebrows as one that is currently being played out on campus these days. This issue I'm writing about is the flap over the Native Cultural and Rural Student Center. First I want to state my personal views on it. I think it's great. It's about time we had one. I think the location is ideal. It is at the hub of the campus, and all can benefit from its location. The issue which I am addressing next is of a little more serious nature. There are those of you that can't get past the prefix of Native that is placed in front of the name. All I can say is shame on you. A cultural center is an awesome responsibility and I for one am proud of the native group for taking on that respon-

sibility. They have taken on the guardianship of their cultural preservation; no small task I might add. So I feel it is fitting to credit them by way of their cultural identity. For those of you who feel threatened that this group does not include you, they have a door to the room and it seems to me that it is always open. Go visit, or better yet, go participate. We all have a stake in each other's culture. With a little genealogical research we find that though our cultures may be different, there are threads that string from culture to culture, clan to clan, race to race and generation to generation, and together those threads weave a beautiful blanket that will keep us all warm, if we will just embrace it.

--Bryan vanEttinger

### Restructuring...

continued from page 1

slated for 1999. This change gives Stell a title comparable to her peers at the University of Alaska Anchorage and the University of Alaska Fairbanks, which she says has allowed her to take on a system-wide role. She hopes to accelerate attempts to introduce more collaboration and communication between the three major campuses. Stell will, however, also retain her position as Dean of Graduate Studies.

The administration has been working on these restructuring plans for the better part of last year, but the changes, having been slowly phased in over several months, weren't finalized until the beginning of the spring semester.

While administrators had budget tightening efforts in mind, the consolidations more importantly aims at a redistribution of responsibilities, said Assistant to the Dean Derr. While duties used to be clustered between the deans of the three schools, they will now be separated in an on/off campus manner. The faculty clusters will play a more active role in admin-

istrative business, and have more input into programming and the governance of the university, she said.

Vice Chancellor Stell expects the changes to increase the equality among and communication between the three schools. The three schools never had any formal means of communicating with each other. They may now do so through the Faculty Council, which meets twice a month.

Stell also expressed hope that the new system would "eliminate layers" and consolidate responsibility. Where individuals once faced a line of red tape when attempting to express specific concerns to administrators, they can now go directly to the chair of the associated faculty cluster, simplifying the process for all involved.

Dean of Faculty Pugh said the faculty and administration were both taking a positive attitude about the changes. "It's going to take a lot of work on everybody's part," he said, "but so far the Faculty Council has worked very hard and put a lot of energy into it."

### Citadel...

continued from page 2

tics in a Red Chinese re-education camp for political prisoners.

As time-worn customs go, burning the clothes of the people under your command or making them wear those clothes as public humiliation ranks right up there with sex discrimination.

It teaches nothing of redeeming value to either the arsonist or his victim.

If this stuff is common knowledge and has gone on year after year at The Citadel, the inmates seem to be running the asylum.

In that case, the institution that only recently stopped promoting sex discrimination has yet to come to grips with perpetuating sociopathic behavior in the name of character development.

Worse, it is administered by deluded weaklings who spout platitudes about discipline when they can't control the monsters they've created.

### A nice place...

continued from page 2

to .80 cents an hour.

Armed soldiers searching your car for no reason would appall and frighten most of us. And to consider \$1.60 an hour a good wage is frightening, especially if you have a family. Yet traveling through Mexico, we were stopped no less than four times, the first scenario played out over and over, to our trepidation and amazement. The man in the second scenario was a gardener, not a groundskeeper, the car and gas prices are out of the paper, and he supports a family of four on \$1.60 an hour in Fiji.

I look for granted my citizenship. The security, physically and financially and the freedom and opportunity I had rarely crossed my mind. I could understand people wanted into this country, but to leave all you had behind, to risk death crossing the desert or the ocean in a boat, to get to the United States? Now I know why they do it. I'd do it too. The images in my mind won't fade anytime soon. It will be a very long time before my awareness of my citizenship fades to my subconsciousness. The United States would be a great place to visit, but I'm sure glad I live here.



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The University of Alaska Southeast student newspaper, The Whalesong, is a bi-monthly publication with a circulation of 1000 copies per issue. The Whalesong's primary audience is UAS students, although its broader audience includes faculty, staff, and community members. Whalesong will strive to inform and entertain its readers, analyze and provide commentary on the news, and serve as a public forum for the free exchange of ideas. The staff of the Whalesong values freedom of expression and encourages reader response.

The Whalesong editorial staff assumes no responsibility for the content of material written by non-staff members. The views and opinions contained in this paper in no way represent the University of Alaska and reflect only those of the author(s). The editorial staff is solely responsible for content.

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Printing done by:  
Golden North Printers - Juneau



## AIDS

### An urgent call to our people

Saturday, February 8  
10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Mourant Lounge

#### Morning Session

Opening Prayer  
Introductions  
Icebreaker

Let's Talk About Sex  
(45 minutes)  
Activities to increase comfort level when talking about sex and sexual behaviors. Teaching about safer sex skills; risk-reduction skill-builder exercises.

HIV/Antibody Testing  
(20 minutes)  
• What is an HIV Anti-body test?  
• Where can a person get this test?  
• What about the home test kits I have heard about?

STD's: The Unexpected Visitor  
(30 minutes)  
Katie Goodwin, UAS RNP. Overview of sexually transmitted diseases, symptoms and treatments.

#### Afternoon Session

HIV/AIDS Infection Update  
(45 minutes)  
• Provide the latest information on HIV disease.  
• Statistical data: World, U.S. and Alaska  
• Medical advancements in the treatment of HIV/AIDS.

Breaking the Silence...PLWHIV Speaker Panel  
(45 minutes)  
People who are HIV+ share their experiences living with the virus. Questions and answers.

HIV Peer Education on and off campus  
(45 minutes)  
Small group discussion; prevention planning, community working with SHANTI.



# Student activists fight sweatshops

## Gap clothes and Guess jeans "Made by Slave Labor"

By Colleen DeBaise  
College Press Service

MINNEAPOLIS—Anne Nicholson remembers when she and her roommates at the College of St. Catherine learned from news reports that The Gap used sweatshops to churn out trendy jeans and shirts.

"It was really kind of overwhelming to see how much [Gap clothing] we had in our closets," recalls Nicholson, who now works for the Minnesota Hispanic Education Program. "It was just kind of shocking."

She and her roommates, founders of a campus social justice group called The Closet Activists, quickly put together a letter-writing campaign urging The Gap to clean up its labor practices. After all, "we're the age demographic they target," she said. "We're the ones who buy their clothes."

Because of their purchasing power, college students are discovering the impact they can make by protesting sweatshops, child labor and other abuses linked to some of the nation's largest retailers. Groups such as The Closest Activists and Students Stop Sweatshops are pushing retailers to improve conditions of factory workers, and they're beginning to see results.

Student activists say they got involved when reports of horrific working conditions surfaced in the news. Beginning in August 1995, raids by U.S. Department of Labor investigators uncovered illegal sweatshops operating in the U.S. and captured headlines.

"Sweatshops, part of the garment industry's past, continue to be a tragic part of the industry's present," said Robert Reich, former U.S. Labor Secretary under the Clinton administration.

The Labor Department began its "No Sweat Initiative" in December 1995, conducting enforcement sweeps in major garment centers. The department also issued its first "Trendsetters" list, highlighting major retailers with high labor standards.

"Many in the American apparel industry provide good jobs, decent wages and fine clothes—and they deserve our support," Reich said. "But the firms that utilize and tolerate sweatshops make it harder for honest shops to compete in the marketplace."

"Sweatshops are an ugly stain on American fashion, and it is up to all of us to remove it."

In the fall of 1995, Nicholson and other students in The Closet Activists hooked up with a campaign sponsored by the National Labor Committee, an independent human

rights group, that targeted The Gap.

In less than four days, they collected 120 letters written by students to the Gap. They also held a mock fashion show, featuring student models sporting Gap clothes with tags that read "Made by Slave Labor" and "Demand Corporate Accountability."

Nicholson said the group was pleased by The Gap's quick response. Gap officials twice visited the campus to meet with the Closet Activists, and eventually set up an independent monitoring program for its factory in El Salvador.

"A lot of time, big corporations don't pay attention," she said. "But they did make an effort to talk with us and enter into talks in El Salvador."

This past October, the Labor Department cited major retailers, including Sears, Macy's West and Guess, Inc., for having received merchandise made in sweatshops.

*"College students represent a major portion of Guess' target market. When labels that they like to wear, that they thought were cool and hip—when they find out what's going on behind the label, I think they're shocked."*

*--Ginny Coughlin  
Student Organizer*

"College students represent a major portion of Guess' target market," said Ginny Coughlin, a Students Stop Sweatshops organizer. "When labels that they like to wear, that they thought were cool and hip—when they find out what's going on behind the label, I think they're shocked."

Students Stop Sweatshops is the youth branch of the Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees, or UNITE. The groups works on projects with the National Labor Committee, which has accused Disney of using Haitian sweatshops to manufacture products, and with the Working Group on Nike, which has criticized Nike for manufacturing shoes under poor working conditions in Indonesia and Vietnam.

Since it formed last September, the group has pulled together hundreds of students on 50 campuses in a campaign protesting Guess' labor practices.

"Students realize that they can have a real

impact because they are the target market of these companies," Coughlin said. As part of the campaign, students have plastered posters around campuses, and encouraged other students to write letters to Guess that say "Stop Using Sweatshops."

Through the Internet, students have sent hundreds of e-mail letters to Guess. In fact, the role the Internet has played in putting together student campaigns has been "huge, huge, huge," Coughlin said. "It makes for very easy and rapid communication. It also helps spread the word [between campuses]."

During the holiday season, students told shoppers "Don't give or get Guess merchandise until they clean up their act."

But Students Stop Sweatshops is not trying to run Guess, or any other company, out of business, Coughlin said. Instead, "we want Guess to take responsibility for clean-

ing up their sweatshop conditions in their factories," she said.

In response to the Students Stop Sweatshops campaign, Guess has denied that its jeans or other apparel are made in sweatshops. Also, Guess stands behind its program that monitors work conditions in contractor shops.

"Guess believes that protecting workers' rights to fair wages and a clean and safe workplace are paramount, and will do business only with those contractors who share our commitment to that principle," said Julie Kurtzman, Guess public relations director, in an e-mail letter sent in response to the students' campaign.

Kurtzman also accused UNITE, which is trying to organize garment industry workers to form a union, of running a smear campaign.

Still, the Labor Department recently dumped Guess from its most Trendsetters

list, released in November. "Guess' monitoring program is ineffective, and the department will review the company's monitoring program within 60 days to determine Guess' future status as a trendsetter," the department wrote.

For Brown University junior Danny Massey, that was a small victory in what has become a national campus campaign against Guess. Communicating through e-mail, Massey has devised campaign tactics with students at Cornell University, Swarthmore College, New York University and San Diego State University, among other colleges.

Massey, a member of Brown's Student Labor Alliance, helped organize a campus meeting last fall attended by a worker who had been fired from a California garment shop under contract with Guess. The worker told students that he had been forced to work at home in order to meet quotas, and said he was paid far less than minimum wage.

After that, Massey and other students collected 400 letters to send to Guess, and 300 letters to the Labor Department.

"We saw how much it meant to the workers to have students 2,000 to 3,000 miles away supporting them," he said. "[The workers] have the same goal as all our parents—to raise enough money to send kids to college."

Brown students also "made a scene" last fall at a Providence, R.I.-area Guess store, where they held a mock sit-in and chanted about how the clothes are made in sweatshops, Massey said. Also, the students stuffed small flyers that read "Made in Sweatshops" into pockets of the store's merchandise.

The students recently held "a massive e-mailing night" and sent a sample letter to students, instructing them to e-mail letters to Guess at the same time.

"We have someone who's good at computers who thought it would crash their system," Massey said.

Although he's not sure how successful that particular strategy was, Massey said the campaign against Guess will pay off. "It's gonna make a difference," he said.

His goal this semester is to get more students involved in the Students Stop Sweatshops campaign. He said he will be happy when companies recognize that problems exist, and take responsibility for sweatshop conditions.

"Hopefully, they'll listen to us," he said.

# On your modems, get net, go!

## UAS offers free internet access to off-campus computers

By Mark Luchini  
Whalesong Reporter

Let's go surfing now, everybody's learning how, come on and surf the net for FREE! That's right as a new service from our friends at the computer center, students faculty and staff can now access the Internet for free from the comfort of their own homes or dorms.

The new service allows for your home computer to in essence talk to the university's terminal server through your modem by establishing a PPP connection. What did I just say? Allow me to explain. PPP (Point-to-Point Protocol) provides the Internet connection for those of us who connect via modem. It is this PPP connection that must be created in order to run programs such as Netscape or E-mail.

Now that you know everything about computers and the Internet (yeah right!) you probably want to know what you can do with this service. When asked what it can do for you, Jason Bourgoin of the computer center here at UAS said, "The biggest single use people have for PPP is the web."

Browsing the World Wide Web is fast becoming a staple of modern student life. However, there is much more than browsing capabilities at your fingertips now.

"People can download game demos, lists of information, you can chat across the internet... IRC or Internet Relay Chat. A fairly new technology is Internet Phone where you can carry on close to real live conversations across the internet without having to pay long distance charges," said Bourgoin. With this new service and a little work these are just a few of the options available to students, faculty and staff at no cost.

As of right now, there are two major platforms the UAS service can run on, Windows 95 and the Macintosh platform. Windows 3.1 users will have to wait a little longer as the software is still being worked on.

Under Windows 95, the configuring is fairly straightforward, all the network drivers are included as the base package of

Windows 95, and there is a handy three page instruction packet in the computer center. On the Macintosh side users can bring in five high density disks and get all of the software copied for free. For the Mac the computer center will provide the PPP software, Teamlinks mail and an older version of Netscape, 1.1n, to browse the web. Mac users can download a newer version of Netscape once they are all set up. The preferred version of Netscape is version 2.2 because at least on the Mac newer versions such as Netscape 3.0, "tend to crash," according to Bourgoin and his experiences.

There are no restrictions on this service, it is free to all students faculty and staff. There is a four hour time limit for your connection. After four hours the connection terminates. Hey we have to take turns so everybody can get connected. Of course all university, state and federal laws apply to the criminal use of computers, so no hackers.

So get out to the computer center and get your instructions. It's easy. No really it is! Best of all it's FREE.

# Comtech 97--a glimpse of the future

## Opportunities for students to talk to industry insiders

By Mark Luchini  
Whalesong Reporter

As the information superhighway grows exponentially each day, the need to understand emerging technologies increases as well. To stay on top of this ever expanding information universe, people spend numerous hours and even more dollars buying and reading magazines and books that are practically outdated by the time they hit the newsstand.

Let's not forget the widely known fact that it is better to learn by doing, rather than just by reading. The hands-on approach that current magazines and other publications lack is now available to Alaskans in the form of Comtech 97.

Juneau's Centennial Hall will be transformed into a technological and information mecca on Feb. 6-8. A myriad of representatives from industry leaders such as Microsoft, Novell, and Starfish Software will be there to show and explain the latest in cutting-edge technology.

The benefits for students attending the

tradeshow will be immeasurable. "Students will be able to see the most current technology and talk to the people shaping the industry," said Susan Favro, Comtech 97 Conference Coordinator. As computers continue to have a huge impact in our everyday life, it is extremely important for the leaders of the next 30 years or so to have a great understanding of the possibilities computers give us.

In addition to speakers from the top companies in the industry, there will be computer training opportunities such as web page construction, HTML, setting up a web server, digital video and much more. There will be sessions on topics from intranets in the enterprise to education issues to forestry management. If it deals with important technology issues it will be at Comtech 97. The tradeshow floor will have technology exhibitors from across the United States showing their products and explaining their services. People will have the chance to get some real hands-on experience with the latest products and have their questions answered.

There will be a special Groupware demonstration on Friday Feb. 7 from 3:30 to 5:00 pm at the ANB Hall downtown. Representatives from Lotus, Novell and Microsoft will be giving short demonstrations on their products. Admissions to the demonstration is \$10 and everyone who attends will receive a free tradeshow floor pass for one of the days of the conference.

To attend Comtech 97 for any or all three days of the conference, register via the Comtech 97 website located at <http://www.juneau.com/comtech>, or call 586-6341 for more information.

Comtech is a once-a-year exhibit, so take advantage and talk to the top professionals in the industry. Comtech 96 was a huge success and the word is that Comtech 97 is bigger and better. No matter your computer literacy or illiteracy this show is for everyone. Comtech 97 is bringing communications for all Alaskans, students especially should take this opportunity to prepare for the future.

# Cyber-spiders for therapy

By Ed Susman  
Reuters

SAN DIEGO—Therapists say they used computer-created spiders to help a woman overcome a fear of the creepy-crawlers that had bedeviled her for 15 years.

Psychologist Albert Carlin of the University of Washington says Wednesday that after just a few months of treatments the woman who used to duct-tape shut bedroom windows out of fear of spiders now goes backpacking in the woods.

Carlin, an associate professor in the department of psychiatry, collaborated with Hunter Hoffman and Suzanne Weghorst at the university's Human Interface Technology Laboratory to create the spiders cartoons of the brown Guyana bird eating tarantula and a venomous black widow spider complete with "cyberweb."

The woman herself had suggested creating the virtual reality spiders viewed through a special helmet. Later the effect was heightened by having the woman touch a soft fur toy spider while looking at the images.


Carlin says the woman's phobia of spiders was alleviated as well as her obsessive-compulsive avoidance habits.

"She would use duct tape to seal all doors and windows in her bedroom to prevent spiders from getting in. She would iron clothes and then seal them in self-locking plastic bags to keep spiders out," says Carlin.

He says the woman developed the phobia as a teen-ager. Exactly why is unknown.

Hoffman and colleagues are presenting results of the experiment at the Medicine Meets Virtual Reality Conference sponsored by the University of California at San Diego School of Medicine.

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# Oldest-ever stone tools found in Africa

By Maggie Fox  
Reuter

LONDON—Stone tools dating back 2.5 million years are the oldest ever found, scientists reported Wednesday, prompting a search for more evidence about the pre-humans who made them.

The surprisingly sophisticated tools, found on the border between Ethiopia and Kenya, push back the frontier of the first-known use of tools by pre-humans by 200,000 years.

Sileshi Semaw of Rutgers University in New Jersey and colleagues say the tools are considerably older than others found in the region, which date back 2.3 million years.

Reporting in the science journal Nature, they say the find indicates that early hominids were settled in the region, industriously making tools for hundreds of thousands of years.

"These are the oldest stone tools ever

found," Semaw said in a statement.

Thousands of the stones, which had been made into knives, axes and hammers by a tricky technique known as knapping, were found near Gona in Ethiopia.

"This is a crucial area and we've only just scraped the surface," said Jack Harris, who directed the study. "We predict that even older artefacts will be found," they said.

The tools are similar to those found by Mary Leakey in the Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania and dated to 1.8 million years ago. Clark Howell of the University of California at Berkeley later found some in southern Ethiopia dated to 2.3 million years ago.

Modern humans emerged about 40,000 years ago. The findings could explain why one species of pre-human evolved into modern Homo sapiens rather than the many others whose bones have been found.

"The development of stone tools was a

major breakthrough in early human behavioral evolution," Semaw said.

"Surprisingly for this early date, the tool-makers had a clear understanding of producing sharp-edged tools, an ability which probably gave them a competitive advantage in exploiting a wide range of food sources in the ancient savanna landscape," Harris added.

Harris's group said they could not identify who made the tools. No bones were found in the silt deposits.

Perhaps either Homo aethiopicus or Afarensis aethiopicus — two species of hominid known to have lived nearby at the same time — were responsible, they said.

But Bernard Wood, an expert in early humans at Britain's Liverpool University, said there was no reason to assume an ancestor of humanity made and used the tools.

He said there were several species of Paranthropus — apelike creatures related to,

but which experts believe did not evolve into, humans — that could have made the tools.

"The assumption has always been...that something relatively clever like making stone tools could only have been done by early ancestors of us," he said in a telephone interview.

But Paranthropus was the only hominid that lived in the region over the entire time period that the tools were made.

Paranthropus, known only by its skull, was not too stupid or uncoordinated to have made tools, Wood argued. "I don't see any logical reason why they couldn't have made these," he said.

Stone tools provided just a partial peek at the past, he added. "They are about the only sort of manufactured object that would survive. For example, they could have been making baskets and all sorts of other things and we would never know about it."



## Don't read this...

**It could save your life**

By John Manning  
Special to the Whalesong

In February of 1986, a group of dedicated individuals joined together and honored a friend's request to die at home with dignity, peace, and surrounded by loved ones. This person was the first in Juneau to openly admit they had AIDS.

This experience led to the establishment of a Juneau-based support service agency dedicated to offering practical and emotional support for people with HIV/AIDS, their friends, and families. This organization is Shanti of Southeast Alaska, (formerly Shanti of Juneau).

### HIV/AIDS TRANSMISSION

Those who utilize Shanti's services are affected in varying degrees by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Without distinguishing by gender, race, color, or sexual orientation, HIV has invaded and attacked each of their bodies in a variety of ways. HIV has infected their bodies and can infect any of our bodies in the following five ways:

- 1) Having unprotected or protected sex with an infected person, i.e., the exchange of semen or vaginal fluids;
- 2) Sharing contaminated needles or syringes;
- 3) Having a blood transfusion in which you receive HIV infected blood;
- 4) Having contact with infected blood or other body fluids or
- 5) Being born to a mother with HIV.

### VIRUS PATH

Once a person has been infected with HIV, the virus begins to attack the immune system. Through a seemingly simple yet

sophisticated process, the body's immune system is overwhelmed. A healthy immune system normally functions in the following way: T-cells spot an invading germ; T-cells then tell B-cells about the nature of the invaders; B-cells make antibodies to kill the invaders; Antibodies attack and destroy invading germs. However, this process is not effective in fighting HIV.

Once HIV is in our bodies it seeks out T-cells and invades them, using them as a host. HIV then feeds off the T-cells, multiplying itself inside its host. The HIV soon becomes too large for its host T-cell and explodes it, spreading the virus throughout the body, attacking more of the limited number of T-cells. Ultimately with T-cells dying, B-cells do not receive the message to make antibodies that help keep the body healthy. With a suppressed immune system the body is unable to continuously ward off the attack of opportunistic infections and in time, becomes overwhelmed and eventually falls prey to bacteria, fungus, and other germs.

There is no standard time line by which we can tell how long an infected person will live with this horrific illness. Each individual reacts differently to medications and treatment, and each individual is exposed to many different germs and disease. Shanti provide services, assistance and dignity to any and all persons in Southeast Alaska who must cope with this illness. Shanti is available to the people in our communities who are in need.

John Manning is a volunteer at Shanti. For information about HIV/AIDS, presentations, volunteering or Shanti call 463-5665.

## Schizophrenia...

continued from page 5

netic deficiency.

Other scientists were cautious.

"Is this a gene for schizophrenia? There is not compelling data in this paper," said Steven Moldin, chief of the genetic research program at the National Institute of Mental Health. "To make the link what you'd have to do is a more complicated genetic analysis."

While the connection between performance on the neurological test and the genetic region on chromosome 15 seems convincing, Moldin said, there isn't a solid link between the two.

"They go ahead to infer that given the fact that (poor performance on the test) has

been found in schizophrenia, it has something to do with it," he said. "That is a reach beyond what they've shown."

Links between genes and psychiatric diseases have been hard to pinpoint, said Kenneth Kendler, a psychiatrist at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. And there have been many reports that have not held up in the hands of other researchers.

"The key issue here is the standard of replication" in other research projects, Kendler said.

The proposed link of the gene to smoking is intriguing but also needs further research, scientists said.

"That's a stretch," Kendler said. "We don't know how this thing (gene) relates to smoking per se."

## Investing for students

**The earlier you start, the better**

By Eleanor Yang  
The Daily Northwestern  
Northwestern University

EVANSTON, Ill.—The bills accumulating on your desk outnumber your syllabi.

You decided to splurge after finals. You wanted to get your friends those extra special gifts. Then there were those after-holiday sales at Abercrombie & Fitch and all those outlet bargains that didn't turn out to be such great bargains. And when you got back on campus, you weren't able to find any used books for your classes.

Maybe it's time to sit down and seriously consider that New Year's resolution to save more money. If saving through investments wasn't a priority two weeks ago, maybe it should be. You could stop worrying about inflation outperforming the money you have sitting in the bank. Your Social Security worries might dissipate.

On top of that, steady investing can ensure money for graduate school, a down payment on your first house or even a cushy early retirement.

Most students agree that it isn't just a lack of knowledge that prevents them from starting to invest, but a lack of money.

But if you don't have a few thousand bucks to throw around, don't worry. Almost all of the larger fund companies allow starting investors to open Individual Retirement Accounts with \$500 to \$1,000. And if that's still too high, some will waive these minimums if you invest \$50 a month.

An earlier starting point can make all the difference.

"For every five years you wait and spend on anything else, you have to invest twice as much," said Anthony Kirchhoefer, branch manager at Charles Schwab's 500 N. Michigan Avenue office in Chicago.

So what are you waiting for?

Starting out can be daunting, especially with the deluge of reports in every newspaper, magazine and TV show on how you should be investing for the new year. But as many professors and student investors attest, there is no time like the present to start investing. The information is plentiful, and your ambition is unsurpassed.

Go info shopping. Clip all that information that's swimming on the newsstand and keep it for when you have the background knowledge to put it into context.

Read up. To help gain an unbiased overview, Robert Coen, Northwestern University

economics professor, recommends you read a good book.

"I think self-education is a good strategy in investing. You shouldn't see a consultant first—there are too many unscrupulous people out there."

Newspapers like The Wall Street Journal don't provide a guide to the basic terms, so the book reading stage is very important, said NU senior Arnab Chatterjee.

The chemistry major has been investing since he was a junior in high school and said he has educated himself by reading publications including Barron's, Value Line and Morningstar.

The overview of what factors affect the stock market and what all the numbers mean will help you decide what's best for you.

"It would have been nice if someone had sat down with Value Line and told me this is what price earning ratio and dividend yields mean," Chatterjee said. "I had to find that out by talking to people."

Once you've built that foundation of knowledge, determine your own financial picture. How many assets do you have compared with liabilities? In other words, how do your student loans compare to your savings?

Decide what your financial goals are. Do you want to have \$10,000 saved for the down payment on your first house in 10 years? Or are you looking for a shorter investment to help out with graduate school expenses? Decide how much time you have, what your ultimate goal is, and if it's possible with the amount of risk you're willing to take.

Students find themselves at a great advantage because of the extensive time they can invest. Even if the stock market were to crash tomorrow, you have the time to wait it out and recover with the market.

If you're looking for a get-rich-quick scheme, NU's Kellogg business school student David Fishman advises you to reconsider.

"I was an idiot," the second-year graduate student said. "I invested only in high-risk stocks—in a satellite company and in health care. I had friends working at one of the firms, and I thought that sounded pretty good. I lost 30 percent of my investment."

Pick your targets. Once you've decided what you would like out of your investment, you might be in a better situation to tackle those clippings and forecasts you saved. Which industries do you think show the most promise? Which countries impress you with their developments?

continued on page 8

## National Student Exchange

Applications for exchanges for the 1997-1998 school year are available in the Student Resource Center.

**Deadline for application is Feb. 14**

**Don't miss out on the opportunity of a lifetime**

# IMAGINARIUM



BY ISAAC D. PETERSON  
E-MAIL: JSIDP





Del and Connie Carnes, of Juneau, enjoy an afternoon of ice skating on newly refrozen Auke Lake. Cool temperatures this winter have made ice skating a popular recreation choice.

Photo by Wayne Saucier

## Investing...

continued from page 6

Many investors advise stock mutual funds or index funds because of their diversification. The broad spread allows you to distribute your eggs all over the market.

"My own opinion is that one should buy into index funds rather than managed funds," said Burton Malkiel, author of "A Random Walk Down Wall Street." The Princeton economics professor explained, "markets are relatively efficient. Index funds provide broad diversification at a low expense. Index funds have done better than almost 90 percent of all mutual funds out there."

Malkiel recommends that a student take on "a bit more risk" and buy an index fund of smaller companies, such as one that invests in emerging market stocks.

- Don't jump in. Before making any transactions, some students recommend practicing first.

"I think watching the markets before purchasing shares is definitely a good idea," Chatterjee said. "You can just jot down the price everyday and look at the patterns after 30 days."

- Keep your goals in mind. Whatever your approach, the most important point is that everything is based on what you want out of it—what you've set as your goals. There is no guarantee that you will make money on the market, but your education can yield high rewards.

"I've found it pretty valuable," Chatterjee said. "It's definitely a good thing to start out with."

*If you're interested in investing, the UAS Investment Club is starting. It is open to students, staff, faculty and alumni. If you have any questions call Amanda at 790-4397.*

## Underage drinker sues bar

By Kevin Krause  
Knight-Ridder/Tribune News

**F**ORT LAUDERDALE, Fla.—Almost four years ago, Robert Apoian and his Lynn University friends went drinking all night at a Boca Raton nightclub to kick off the start of Spring Break.

The three freshmen say they all were served alcohol at Club Malibu, a dance club in the Shops of Boca shopping center on Powerline Road, despite being younger than the legal drinking age.

Now, Apoian, 22, is suing the nightclub for not asking them for proof of age March 18, 1993.

Apoian's friend, Frances Dawn Brown, slammed her 1989 Honda into a concrete utility pole on the way home, severely injuring all three.

Apoian, of Boca Raton, suffered permanent injuries, including facial scars and a loss of taste and smell, said his attorney, D. Russell Stahl.

Apoian is claiming in the lawsuit that the nightclub, now closed, illegally got Brown drunk, which later caused his injuries. Apoian said he and Brown no longer are friends, and would not comment on the case.

Stahl said Florida insurance laws have made it harder to sue for anything other than slips and falls.

"What we may find is that (the bar's) insurance coverage is no good," Stahl said from his Tampa office. "Insurance coverage for bars has all kinds of exclusions for alcohol-related incidents."

Apoian and Brown were both 18, and the third friend, Sandra Pizarro, was 17, when they were served alcohol at Club Malibu without being asked for proof of age, according to the lawsuit filed Jan. 3 in Palm Beach County.

Brown, of Marietta, Ga., was heading south on Powerline Road, south of Verde Trail, at 2:09 a.m. when her car skidded off the road and struck a utility pole near the nightclub entrance.

Rescue workers had to use the "jaws of life" tool to cut Apoian, a passenger in the front seat, out of the mangled car. All three were taken to a hospital, where Apoian was treated for head injuries and cuts on his face and body, reports show.

Brown later was charged with drunken driving. Police said she was driving 57 mph in a 40-mph zone. Police reports show that all three had been drinking alcohol.

Apoian also is suing Brown. The case is scheduled for trial next month.

"She raised the defense that he knew that she had been drinking," Stahl said. "I will argue to a jury that he did not cause his injuries because he did not drive."

"This case is going to say: passenger beware. If you're drunk, you don't know what you're doing. You may not be safe as a passenger," he said.

The accident came one day before the start of Lynn University's Spring Break.

Brown is living in Georgia and could not be reached on Thursday for comment.

Club Malibu, 21065 Powerline Road, closed in August 1994, corporate records show, and recently reopened as Riviera Night Club under a new owner at the same location.

At the time of the episode, the club advertised an all-ages night on Wednesdays, during which guests 18 and older were invited, former owner William Ciano said.

Ciano, who sold the club in 1992 to restaurateur Bobby Rubino, said that to be served alcohol, patrons had to display a wristband they received after showing proof of age. Rubino could not be reached for com-

ment.

Dave Fountain, spokesman for the Florida Division of Alcohol, Beverages and Tobacco, said his office had received complaints of underage drinking at the club but that there wasn't enough proof to bring sanctions against it.

Miami Investment Enterprises Inc., the Coral Springs company that owned club Malibu, also was listed as a defendant in the suit.



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## MEETINGS

Wooch.Een meets Tuesdays at noon in the Native and Rural Students Services Room. All students are welcome.